

I claim:

1. A multimaster bus system, comprising:

a bus;

a plurality of units that can be connected using the bus; and

a default master that is selected from the plurality of the units in a dynamically modifiable default-master stipulation;

the default-master stipulation being based on criteria selected from the group consisting of:

when the plurality of the units are used on the bus,

how often the plurality of the units are used on the bus, and

how long the plurality of the units are used on the bus.

2. A multimaster bus system, comprising:

a bus;

a plurality of units that can be connected using the bus; and

a default master that is selected from the plurality of the units in a dynamically modifiable default-master stipulation;

one of the plurality of the units that has used the bus last being stipulated as the default master in the dynamically modifiable default-master stipulation.

3. A multimaster bus system, comprising:

a bus;

a plurality of units that can be connected using the bus; and

a default master that is selected from the plurality of the units in a dynamically modifiable default-master stipulation;

one of the plurality of the units that needed the bus more frequently than any others of the plurality of the units in a preceding predetermined time period being stipulated as the default master in the dynamically modifiable default-master stipulation.

4. A multimaster bus system, comprising:

a bus;

a plurality of units that can be connected using the bus; and

a default master that is selected from the plurality of the units in a dynamically modifiable default-master stipulation;

the default master selected, in the dynamically modifiable default-master stipulation, from the group consisting of:

a particular one of the plurality of the units that is expected to need to access the bus frequently, and

a particular one of the plurality of the units that is expected to need to access the bus rapidly.

5. The multimaster bus system according to claim 4, comprising:

a program-controlled unit that needs bus access;

the default-master stipulation being based on an analysis selected from the group consisting of an analysis of an actual program cycle of the program-controlled unit and an analysis of an expected program cycle of the program-controlled unit.

6. The multimaster bus system according to claim 4, wherein the dynamically modifiable default-master stipulation is based upon variable criteria and variable parameters.

7. A method for operating a multimaster bus system, which comprises:

providing a bus and a plurality of units that can be connected using the bus;

selecting a default master from the plurality of the units in a default-master stipulation that can be dynamically modified; and

in the default master stipulation, selecting the default master based on criteria selected from the group consisting of:

when the plurality of the units are used on the bus,

how often the plurality of the units are used on the bus, and

how long the plurality of the units are used on the bus.

8. The method according to claim 7, which comprises varying criteria and varying parameters upon which the default-master stipulation is based.

9. A method for operating a multimaster bus system, which comprises:

providing a bus and a plurality of units that can be connected using the bus;

selecting a default master from the plurality of the units in a default-master stipulation that can be dynamically modified; and

in the default master stipulation, selecting the default master as one of the plurality of the units that has last used the bus.

10. The method according to claim 9, which comprises varying criteria and varying parameters upon which the default-master stipulation is based.

11. A method for operating a multimaster bus system, which comprises:

providing a bus and a plurality of units that can be connected using the bus;

selecting a default master from the plurality of the units in a default-master stipulation that can be dynamically modified; and

in the default master stipulation, selecting the default master as one of the plurality of the units that needed the bus more frequently than any others of the plurality of the units in a preceding predetermined time period.

12. The method according to claim 11, which comprises varying criteria and varying parameters upon which the default-master stipulation is based.

13. A method for operating a multimaster bus system, which comprises:

providing a bus and a plurality of units that can be connected using the bus;

selecting a default master from the plurality of the units in a default-master stipulation that can be dynamically modified; and

in the default master stipulation, selecting the default master from the group consisting of:

a particular one of the plurality of the units that is expected to need to access the bus frequently, and

a particular one of the plurality of the units that is expected to need to access the bus rapidly.

14. The method according to claim 13, which comprises varying criteria and varying parameters upon which the default-master stipulation is based.

15. The method according to claim 13, which comprises:

in the default master stipulation, selecting the default master based on an analysis selected from the group consisting of an analysis of an actual program cycle in a program-controlled unit which needs bus access, and

an analysis of an expected program cycle in the program-controlled unit.

16. The method according to claim 15, which comprises varying criteria and varying parameters upon which the default-master stipulation is based.